NEW YORK'S ANCIENT AND FAMOUS HORSE MART.

Facts About the Dealers in Horses That Still Hold the Fort in the



cilifies which suited our ancestral business men

be versed in the entertaining mysteries of the place

than you'll ever find at a Delmonico assembly.

E. W. REABNEY. Men who buy and sell horses seem in some mysto rious fashion to have acquired the broad and pa-

tient virtues of the animals of whom Dean Swift possessed so exaited an opinion. Your true New York horse dealer never beats a horse and rarely

curses a man in his employ. A good horse is even dearer to him than the wife of his bosom. If you

AN OLD LANDMARK BESCRIBED

some sunshiny morning.

the prospective buyer.

would now scarcely serve to store old lumber in. There is one grand exception to the results of this prevailing spirit of iconoclasm, and that is New York's horse market. A good many people will doubtless be inclined to sniff at the above phrase while they affirm that they never knew that New York had such a thing as "a horse market." Now this is precisely the class of people for whom this article is designed. No one man can possibly know everything that's going on about im in Gotham, and a man whose means or tastes

ness.
Old George Smith, of the firm of Oakley & Smith, could tell you a pretty tale of the doings in the early days of the district if you happened to strike him when he wasn't busy. Mr. Smith is one of the voterans of the trade and has been dealing in borses in East Twenty-fourth street since 1852. Bis pariner, Mr. Whitson Oakley, died recently, but Mr. Smith, though more than seventy-five years old, still continues to do business with his accustomed judgment and fairness.

EARLY DAYS OF THE HORSE MARKET.

That Still Hold the Fort in the Bull's Head District.

GEORGE SMITH'S REMINISCENCES.

Methods of the Leaders of the Trade Described and Some of the Peculiarities of Their Customers.

Methods of the Leaders of the Peculiarities of Their Customers.

BERRYERS of the phenomena of city life must have noted how certain landmarks resist the ravages of time just as in an ancher woodland on the of great apparent age proclaims to the world that no storms and no inable to lay it low.

Some men are as lucky, or even luckier, than these old trees which, by some chance, the lighting not shad the temporal that no storms and no inable to lay it low.

Some men are as lucky, or even luckier, than these old trees which, by some chance, the lighting not some proclaims to the world landmarks—footprints, as it were, upon the sand of time, The modern man, however, is no repeated of landmarks, and ancient buildings with their associations fall before him like ripe wheat before the reasuer.

The city of New York, thersfore, is not rich in antiquities in the form of buildings because the father and on sale days a practical cye is necessary other, and on sale days a practical cye is necessary other, and on sale days a practical cye is necessary only done work of an all parts of the country used to bring the buildings with their associations fall before him like ripe wheat before the reasuer.

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while a ragged little fellow gets a chance to ride a horse for exhibition. Most of the men are there either because they want to buy a horse or because they'd rather be near a horse than anything else in the world. The dogs should not be forgotten in the composition of the picture, for they very nearly challenge comparison in point of numbers with the boys and men. Every stable in the block furnishes its quots, and the knowing fellows six about on their haunches and watch the fun with semi-sarcastic blinkings of the eyes.

Three anction sales were progressing the day I was there. In the "Blue Front" stables Messrs. First & Doerr were selling 150 head of horses to the highest bidder. Whitson & Son were offering in the same way a consignment of saddle, carriage and business horses, and Seligman & Hahn were equally busy.

the same ways consignment of saddle, carriage and business horses, and seligman a Habn were equally busy.

Over against these keen eyed sellers stood the equally alert buyers, most of them with hands thrust deep in the pockets of prodigious ulsters and an expression of concentrated distruct upon their faces. Finally, to complete the picture, were the brawny stablemen ready at an instant's notice to do the bidding of "the boss," who, with the inevitable whip in his hand, superintended the evolutions of the day like the ring master in a circus.

The auctioneer did all the talking, but before this came about at least a dozen sideshows were in progress along the block. One dealer is anxious to show prospective buyers the kind of draught horses he is going to offer them. A tremendous broad backed fellow is harnessed to a two-wheeled dray and one of the stablemen takes the reins and starts the Norman down the block. He walks, trots and canters in elephantine style. The men in the big ulsters "take it all in" in solemn silence. They neither show approval nor evince disappointment. Meanwhile, however, all the men connected with the particular stable then exhibiting develop a sudden vivacity. They ejaculate their admiration of the horse's points. Finally, the driver calls for a heavy balestick, which is run through the spokes of the dray's wheels, effectually stopping theig revolutions. The horse is once again started on his med career over the rough roadway, and this time he must drag the heavy wagon by main strength over the stones. But he does it assily, after breaking several balesticks in his mighty struggles, and is driven back into the stable until his turn arrives to be knocked down to the highest bidder.

But one of the peculiar features of the above seene is that while the drangth horse is exercising

struggles, and is driven back into the stable until his turn arrives to be knocked down to the highest bidder.

But one of the peculiar features of the above scene is that while the draught horse is exercising all the other stables are showing off their wares in a similar manner. Carriage horses are being driven single and double to buggles, work horses are trotted up and down the sidewalks by perspiring stable hands, and saddle horses are cantered wildly through the slush of the streets to show off their points to the admiring throng.

CARRIAGE HORSES HARD TO SELL.

The auction houses in the street sell all classes of horses, from the high stepping carriage horse to the ordinary car horse. Thus Fies & Doorr make a specialty of auctioning horses from lows. Missouri and Indiana. This firm, as do all the firms in the street for that matter, give a two days trial of each horse, and if by that time the animal is not found to be as represented the purchasor's money is refunded. It very rarely happens, however, that a horse is returned. The auctioners rely upon their buyers to protect them from getting sold on their consignments.

James H. Whitson & Son deal in all varieties of horses, from the high toned pacers from Kentucky and Indiana to those which are serviceable for general business purposes. Oakley & Smith, who do not do any auction business, make a specialty of work horses of all kinds. Mr. Smith doesn't take much stock in selling carriage horses. He says it takes too much time to soil them on account of the fastidiousness of the customers for this class of stock. Mr. Smith finds the most profitable line of business to consist in dealing in horves for surface railroads. He sells the Third, Fourth and Eighth avenue lines and also many of the Brooklyn companies. The Fourth Avenue Railroad Company buys the very best grade of stock obtainable for the purpose, often paying \$200a head for their horses. The Third avenue line is not so particular.

Seligman feels much encouraged by the outlook.

This review cannot in

answer.

An ESTABLISHMENT SUI GENERIS.

Van Tassell & Kearney's great auction house in East Thirteenth street is one of the most complete of its kind in the United States, and as a carriage repository it surely has no equal anywhere. It was established on the block where the new building now stands in 1867 by Johnson & Van Tassell. This firm began business on Liberty street, but soon moved up town. Mr. Edward Kearney bought out Mr. Johnson's interest in the business and the firm style became Van Tassell & Kearney.

After Mr. Kearney's accession to the firm the



THE OLD BLUE POINT STABLE.

THE CLD BLUE POINT STABLE.

street, was completed in 1888. It occupies six city lots and extends through the block to Twelfth street. It is five stories high and as freproof as such a structure can be made.

Mr. Van Tassell was killed in the new building shortly after its opening by stepping down the clevator shaft. This sad accident is yet fresh in the minds of the public. Mr. Van Tassell was justly popular with the trade and with the public. The business is now conducted by the Kearney, father and son, but Mr. Elward Kearney the younger does most of the active work.

CATERERS TO "THE FORE BUNDRED."

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CATEBERS TO "THE FOUR RUNDRED."

Van Tassell & Kearney are auctioneers of the first class; so to speak. They do not buy horses to sell. Their line of constomers are either private individuals who wish to dispose of their stock at the very best possible price, or consignors whose articles are of so high a grade as to render it desirable to have them auctioned under the best possible anspices.

ticles are of so high a grade as to render it desirable to have them auctioned under the best possible auspices.

The facilities furnished by Van Tassell & Kearney to customers of this description are unrivalled in character. The stables in which the horses to be suctioned are housed is a marvel of cleanliness and convenience. The auction floor, above the stable, is big enough and species enough to be utilized as ballroom. The horses on exhibition are trotted over this floor, instead of being exhibited in the street, and everything about a Van Tassell & Kearney sale is conducted in a manner befitting the state of its patrons. In order to render the work of auctioning as speedy as possible a dozen stalls are arranged in a passage way adjoining the auction room. In these stalls the horses to be disposed of are placed, so as to be within instant call when desired and also within easy reach of customers wishing to look them over.

But perhaps the most interesting features of this great establishment are the carriage warerooms, which monopolize the four floors above the auction floor. These four immense rooms, each covering a space of 60:100 feet, are literally jammed with carriages of all sorts and descriptions, from the heavy weight landau to the feather weight buckboard. The firm's auction sales of carriages are noted throughout the country, and Mr. Edward Kearney, who takes special pride in this line of the business, has built it up into a perfection scarcely equalled by any other establishmeni of the kind.

The man who is thinking of setting up a turnout

ment of the kind.

ELEGANY CARRIAGES CHEAP.

The man who is thinking of setting up a turnout and wants to get the proper thing without paying too much for it should take his wife to Van Tassell & Kearney's. He will scarcely find more thoroughbred attendance at any Fifth avenue emporium. Entering a bandsome elevator, carpeted in Wilton. One of the features of the institution is the many valuable carriages which are offered for often less than half their cost. Rich men are just as inicky about their carriages as about the horses that draw them. If you have a couple of millions at your beck and call it is your divine right, as it were, to buy a carriage at an exorbitant price one day and sell it the next for half what you gave for it. Mr. Rearney showed me any quantity of such carriages which had been placed in his hauds for sale by their owners. One handsome, aristocratic looking brougham, lined with dark blue undressed satin, and with not a scratch upon it, which Brewster, the maker, would ask \$1,400 for, was offered by Mr. Kearney for \$700. A full platform extension top phaeton, big enough for a large family, seemed very cheap at \$375. Ordinarily such a conveyance would be quoted at twice that amount.

It would be possible to multiply instances of this

such a conveyance would be quoted at twice that amount.

It would be possible to multiply instances of this kind indefinitely, for light wagons, buckboards and T carts are just as cheap as the heavier varieties of vehicles. The firm has also an extensive harness department in which at a moment's notice almost the anxious customer may be fitted with any style of harness he desires.

The 1rm of Flandrau & Co., of No. 372 Broome street, have also a very fine stock of carriages on hand, which they retail at bottom figures. William H. Gray, of No. 29 Wooster street; James W. Beuwick, of No. 39 Wooster street; the flenny Killam Company, of Broadway and Fifty-fourth street, and John Moore, of No. 38 Worren street, are among the other prominent dealers in this line

BUTTERFLY HUNTER

How to Capture, Preserve and Classify Butterflies, Moths and Sphinges.

NEW YORKERS' LATEST FAD.

Simple Instructions by Which Beginners May Become Expert Collectors.



FANCY for collecting lepidopters, which is that order of insects including - vint are commonly known as butterflies. has at last taken a hold upon the Amer-

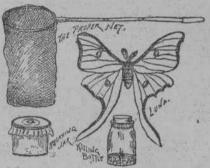
In Germany the collection and classification of insects and plants is a part of the training of In this way not only

they acquire a love of nature which adds a zest to the rest of their lives. In this country too little attention has been paid

to this branch of science. It has never been popularized as it should be. There have been enthusiastic collectors, of course

and there are collections which are worth thousands of dollars, and are the envy of European museum curators. It is only within the last two years, how in the pursuit.
The initiative was found in Brooklyn, when the

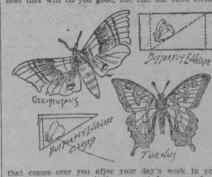
Brooklyn Institute formed a department of entomology and popular lectures on entomology illustrated with course. Gradually those who attended became more and more fascinated with the beautiful study, and



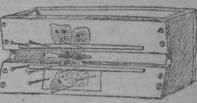
of his treasures to exhibit them to the section, many

Then came the spring exhibition whereat sixty thousand specimens were slown. Undoubtedly many converts were made then, for last season when out in the fields I several times met young people of both sexes, net in hand, beating the bushes.

when the first we have been with the best of the control of the co FREEMASONRY AFIELD.



is Agrotis C. Nigrum, quite common with us that little beauty, pale yellow and pink is Rubic



THE MOUNTING BOARD

internal business could be wiped off the lace of the city.

And yet if a locality is entitled to any consideration on the ground of antiquity then assuredly the Buil's Head district ought to establish a hold on the public affections. The big city has spread and developed all around it; other business enterprises have shifted their places with the upward troud of the city's life; Fifth avonue itself has lost its character by giving over its ancient exclusiveness to the democracy of trade, but through all this restieses change the old Buil's Head crowd has gone on selling horses in the same old place and in the tame old way it did nearly half a century ago. OUR GREAT HORSE TRADE. OUR GREAT HORSE TRADE.

A vast change has, of course, come over the business of horse dealing. Of late years there has been a wonderful development of New York's horse trade. Within the experience of the present generation this city has become one of the greatest horse markets in the world. But, notwithstanding this progress, there still live and move and have their being in the Bull's Head district many of the old fellows who traded there when Twenty-fourth street and Third avenue was to the city of New York what the outskirts of the annexed district are to day. ness of horse dealing. Of late years there has been a wounderful development of New York's horse trade. Within the experience of the present general three and this city has become one of the greatest horse markets in the world. But, netwithstanding this progress, there still live and move and have their being in the Bull's Head district many of the old fellows who traded there when Twenty-fourth street and Third avenue was to the city of New York what the outskirts of the annexed district are to day.

Some of those old two story ramshackle stables were bullt forty years ago, when the Bull's Head to the Bull's Head to the first the stables are crowded with a moley as tableauch of the subject of the subj

SHOWING THE PACES.

to separate the operations of one dealer from another. The proprietor of a stable may usually be distinguished by his hawk-like air and the never falling carriage whip which he holds with an easy grace in his right hand. He is never disturbed, never at a loss. He knows every individual horse of his one hundred and fifty or two hundred head, and can pick out the right thing for his customer without an instant's hesitation.

An interesting study on busy days is Mr. Isaac H. Daklmann, proprietor of the Empire Sale and Exchange Stables, of No. 209 East Twenty-fourth street, just east of Third avenue. Mr. Daklmann has a mammoth establishment, separated by Third avenue from the rest of his competitors in the trade, He does a business of a purely private character, never indulging in auction sales. He makes a specialty of heavy draught horses and supplies most of the brewers in town with the powerful animais which draw their enormous loads of beer kegs.

Mr. Dahlmann, however, has built up, an eaving don't draw him horsewards is least or all likely to

beer kegs.
Mr. Dahlmann, however, has built up an enviaof our fine ladies, or a 2:20 gait before the sulkies of our fine ladies, or a 2.20 gait before the suikles of our fine ladies' lords and masters, or draw our brewery wagons and surface cars are bought and sold.

The New York horse market is one of the most diverting localities in all the city. There's more unconscious display of character in and around it be is not called upon to fill some such order.

he is not called upon to fill some such order.

DAHLMANN'S HOME.

Mr. Dahlmanu's appearance is an earnest of honesty and prosperity. He is always well dressed, and the diamond on his immaculate shirt front shines no brighter or keener than his alert oye. He deesn't calculate to make a great profit on the horse he sells you, and he tells you so. His theory is to make small profits, but do an immense business.

Mr. Bahlmann's home is in the midst of his constantly growing business, and he has only to don his hat and coat, saize the never failing whip and sten from the firestic to the market. The ground floor of the house he occupies is used as a stable, and above are the living rooms of the family. Here all Mr. Dahlmann's children were born, for he has lived in the old brick building close on to forty years. The restless favorite of fortune who is always wanting "to match something" knows that ways wanting "to match something" knows that Dahlmann can do it for him if anybody can, and seeks the genial dealer out when in trouble about his T cart team as naturally as the sparks fly up-

ward.
"No," said Mr. Dablmann, "I don't do an auction business, because in my judgment there's no money in it. I have built up a trade which has pecular features. I think I may safely say that I have slarger private trade than any other dealer in the market—"

Mr. Dahlmann was unable to finish his sentence, for a handsome young gentleman, attired in a light blue top coat and accompanied by his groom, here interrupted him.

"I want to match a bay for my T cart," said this favorite of fortune with the air of a man who buys

two cigars for a quarter.
"Yes, sir." says Mr. Dahlmann promptly, and then to one of his numerous assistants, "Bring out that gray." HARD WORK TO MATCH.

The gray, a handsome fellow, looking as sound as a new apple, is brought forth for approval.

"He's too big," says the young man disconsolately, and then turns to his groom for help. But the sleek groom has lost himself somewhere, and



the young master excuses himself to Mr. Dahlmann while he runs about crying at intervals, "Where's my man?"

Finally "the man" is found and rushed back to give his views on the gray. He stauds before the horse and looks him over with a critical eye.

"Ee's too big," is his final comment to his "manster."

"There, Dahlmann," says young Crossus, "I told you so, I want a horse fitteen hands high."

In vain the experienced dealer assures his oustomer that the gray is just the height he wants. The latter insjats that the horse is wixteen hands if he'e an inch. Whereupon Mr. Dahlmann takes the measure, and lo! the gray scales just fifteen hands.

are the youths given healthful outdoor exercise, but